

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02030 111657Z

ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO USIA WASHDC

SECSTATE WASHDC 4097

AMCONGEN LENINGRAD

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USIA FOR IMV, IEU; STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR
P&C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, CSCE, UR

SUBJECT: TENTH MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED MFA NOTE ANNOUNCING TENTH MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF) TO BE HELD JULY 7-21. NOTE ALSO REQUESTS EMBASSY TO PASS INVITATION TO "INTERESTED AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS AND AGENCIES." EMBASSY SUGGESTS DEPARTMENT PASS TO MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MPAA), ENCOURAGING THEIR PARTICIPATION, PERHAPS OFFERING HELP FUND TRAVEL OF MPAA DELEGATION.

1. AS NOTE STATES, USSR ATTACHED "MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE PARTICIPATION OF THE USA ALONG WITH OTHER COUNTRIES..." RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH GOSKINO OFFICIALS HAVE INCLUDED THEIR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE US DELEGATION TO THE MIFF. IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT STATE COMMITTEE ON CINEMATOGRAPHY (GOSKINO) INTERESTED IN US PARTICIPATION WHICH THE NOTE EXPECTED TO GENERATE. IT ALSO CLEAR THAT, AS IN CASE PAST MIFFS, GOSKINO WILL BE INVITING INDIVIDUALS, POSSIBLY DELEGATIONS, CERTAINLY SPECIFIC FILMS BY DIRECT CONTACT WITH FRIENDS OF OFFICIAL SOVIET INSTITUTIONS AND FILM INDUSTRY, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02030 111657Z

2. SOVIET INTEREST IN US PARTICIPATION HEIGHTENED BY FACT 1977 IS 60TH ANNIVERSARY 1917 REVOLUTION AND DISAPPOINTMENT AT LACK OF OFFICIAL USG OR MPAA PARTICIPATION IN NINTH MIFF (1975) BOTH AMERICAN FILMS AND AMERICANS WORKING IN FILM FIELD WERE PRESENT, HOWEVER, AS RESULT OF SPECIFIC GOSKINO INITIATIVES.

3. AS NOTE STATES, 1977 MIFF BEARS TITLE , "...PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES." EMBASSY EXPECTS NO LESS PROPAGANDA FOOTAGE THAN IN PREVIOUS MIFFS AND NO FEWER SPEECHES ON SOVIET PROPAGANDA THEMES. EMBASSY RECALLS THAT SPECIAL GUEST OF NINTH FESTIVAL WAS MRS. ALLENDE, WHOSE PRESENCE GAVE SPECIAL TONE TO BOTH PROTOCOL AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS.

4. NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY NOTES THAT FILMS REPRESENT ONE INFORMATION MEDIUM AMONG SEVERAL REFERRED TO IN CSCE FINAL ACT. DESPITE THE MPAA'S KNOWN NEGATIVE POSITION ON COMMERCIAL BENEFITS OF DEALING WITH USSR, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS POSITIVE APPROACH TO MPAA ON POSSIBILITY IT WILL BE ABLE ORGANIZE REPRESENTATIVE US PARTICIPATION, PERHAPS OF A DELEGATION, POSSIBLY OF FILMS AS WELL.

5. DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH FUND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MPAA DELEGATION IN UNLIKELY EVENT MPAA PARTICIPATION IN MIFF POSES FINANCIAL PROBLEM. EMBASSY WOULD SUPPORT USE AMSPEC FUNDS FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

6. EMBASSY DOES NOT RPT NOT RECOMMEND ANY MORE OPENLY OFFICIAL USG PARTICIPATION IN MOSCOW'S TENTH FILM FESTIVAL. IF MPAA UNWILLING TO PARTICIPATE, MATTER SHOULD REST THERE.

7. ENGLISH TRANSLATION MFA NOTE SENT UER/SOV, CU/EE AND USIA/IEU REGISTRY NUMBER 1911502).
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Subject: TENTH MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED MFA NOTE ANNOUNCING TENTH MOSCOW INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF) TO BE HELD JULY
TAGS: OEXC, UR, CSCE
To: USIA STATE
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